VZCZCXYZ0010 PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKA #0903 2381021 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 251021Z AUG 08 FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7276 INFO RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 8516 RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 8576 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 2306 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0788

UNCLAS DHAKA 000903

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/RSP ATTN: KEVIN SHEIVES, S/CRS ATTN: MATT CORDOVA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL EAID MARR ARF KCRS BG
SUBJECT: US-THAILAND ARF WORKSHOP: BANGLADESH INTERESTED

BUT NON-COMMITTAL

REF: STATE 86278

(U) On Tuesday August 19, PolOff met with Masudur Rahman, Director of the Americas Wing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to encourage the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) participation in the upcoming ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) workshop on Stabilization and Reconstruction issues. Rahman expressed interest, noting that Bangladesh has cooperated closely with ARF countries and promised that the GOB would do its best to send a delegation. He added that the size of a delegation would not exceed three to four individuals, but was not yet in a position to discuss specifics. RollinsDA